



"There is a notion, which has to do with the romantic hero image, that writing is pure genius, and you can't teach it.... Bread Loaf, in fact, has been going for a very long time and has a very good record of helping extremely talented writers to become solid artists."

JOHN GARDNER,
faculty 1974-1982



"Isolation and insecurity can combine to kill you when you're starting out. I was a twenty-two-year-old plumber in Concord, New Hampshire, and had never met a writer, when I lugged my novel manuscript to Bread Loaf, hoping to get Nelson Algren to take a look and tell me I wasn't crazy. He did both, and that fueled me for the long haul. I have to believe it made me a writer."

RUSSELL BANKS,
contributor 1963;
frequent faculty
and guest



"For me, Bread Loaf has always been a magic mountain, a place where for eleven summer days, reading and writing and talking about poetry is the most important thing in the world."

LINDA PASTAN,
contributor 1974;
frequent faculty
and guest

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Bread Loaf
WRITERS' CONFERENCE

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Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE

AUGUST 11 - 22, 1999



Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE



Robert Cohen's workshop (top) gathers on the West Lawn.

Contributor Zahr Said reading from her work.

74TH ANNUAL SESSION, AUGUST 11-22, 1999 MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Founded in 1926, Bread Loaf is the oldest writers' conference in the country. Every session, we welcome new Bread Loafers in the Little Theatre where, in 1928, Stephen Vincent Benét and Sinclair Lewis read from their work, and where, in 1945, Richard Wright introduced *Native Son* to a spell-bound audience. Faculty and students confer in front of the huge fieldstone fireplace in the Barn where the young Eudora Welty bent over *A Curtain of Green* with her mentor, Katherine Anne Porter. One can hike trails where Robert Frost habitually tramped, noting how birch trees "bend to left and right / Across the lines of straighter darker trees," or play tennis on the clay

courts where Theodore Roethke played against Randall Jarrell while W.H. Auden looked on from a deep green Adirondack chair.

Bread Loaf continues its rich literary and intellectual tradition by gathering a talented and diverse faculty — among them MacArthur fellows and winners of the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award — to work closely with developing writers. We invite you to experience the inspiration, the challenge, and the fun of Bread Loaf. It's a place to share manuscripts, get advice from experienced writers, and meet agents, editors, and the next generation of important writers.

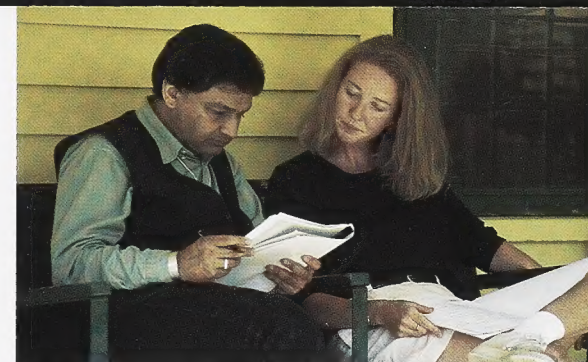
THE PROGRAM

Writing workshops in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction are at the core of the curriculum. Each faculty member conducts a small workshop, most often of ten contributors, meeting for five two-hour sessions over the course of the Conference. All participants also meet individually with their workshop leaders to amplify and refine what was said in the workshop itself.

Faculty offer lectures on writerly issues and one-hour classes on specific aspects of craft. Readings by faculty, guests, and contributors are scheduled in the Little Theatre throughout the day and into the night. Guests in publishing — editors and literary agents — present information and answer questions. They also meet with Bread Loafers in small groups.



The Bread Loaf campus is set in the Green Mountain National Forest. Faculty and guests conduct hikes and writing exercises on the relationship of writing and nature.



Agha Shahid Ali and poetry fellow Ann Townsend.

APPLICATIONS

■ You may apply to the Conference by submitting a writing sample along with an application form. You are also welcome to apply as an auditor and, in this case, need not submit a writing sample. If you apply before April 30, you will hear back from us by May 15. Later applications are considered on a rolling basis. There is no application fee.

■ We offer three types of financial aid, based on published work and/or literary promise. Financial aid applications must be postmarked by April 1. Conference fees: \$1,730 contributors; \$1,660 auditors. Includes room and board.

■ Please visit our Web Site or contact us for an application and informational brochure.

Mrs. Carol Knauss
Bread Loaf Writers' Conference
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753
E-mail: blwc@middlebury.edu
Telephone: 802-443-5286; Fax: 802-443-2087
Web Site: <http://www.middlebury.edu/~blwc>

LODGING AND MEALS

Bread Loafers are housed on the mountain campus of Middlebury College in Ripton, Vermont, in the Bread Loaf Inn and its cluster of cottages and buildings. Most rooms on campus are doubles and share a bath. Meals are served in the dining room of the Inn. There's a well-stocked salad bar, and vegetarian options are available. There's also a snack bar in the Barn. A list of local rentals is available to those who prefer off-campus housing and meals.

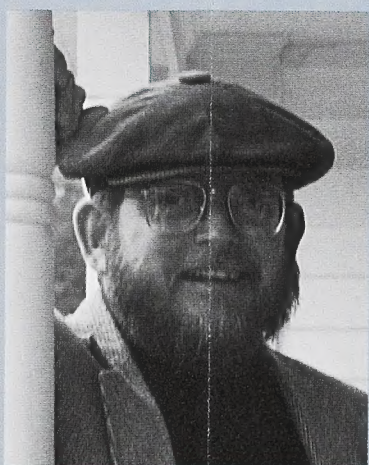
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WRITERS' CONFERENCE

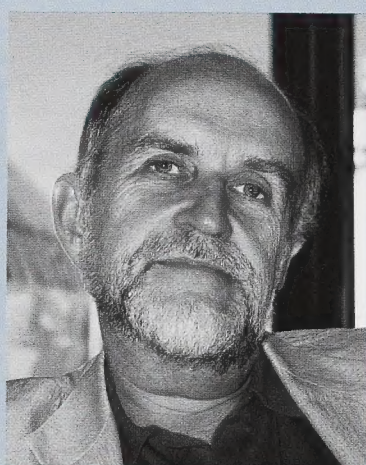
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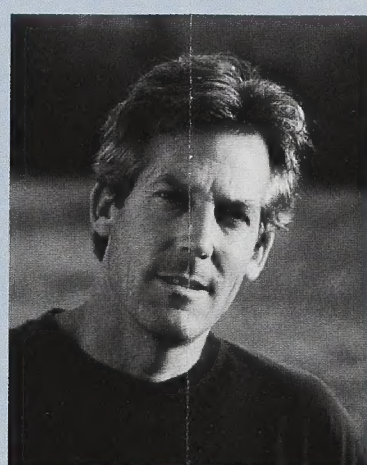
Andrea Barrett



Richard Bausch



Clark Blaise



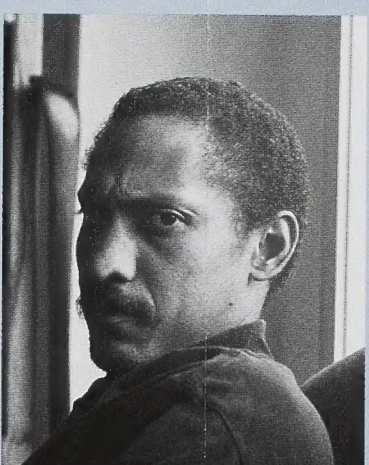
Michael Collier



Toi Derricotte



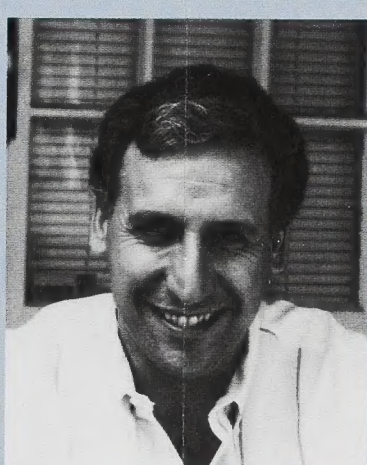
Jennifer Egan



Percival Everett



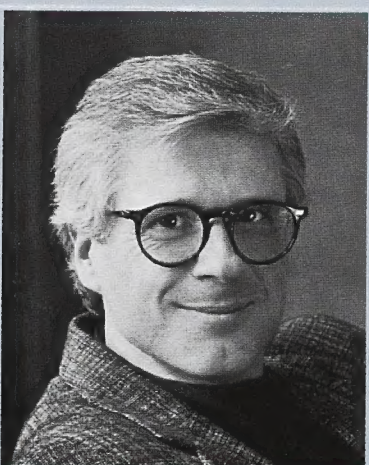
Patricia Hampl



Edward Hirsch



Margot Livesey



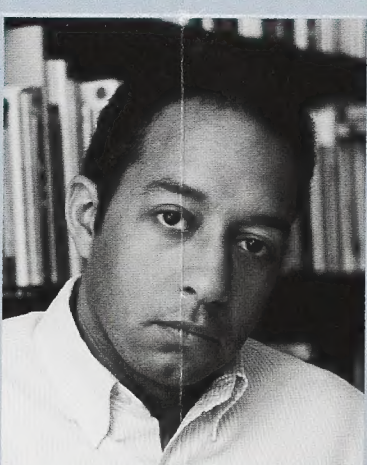
Thomas Mallon



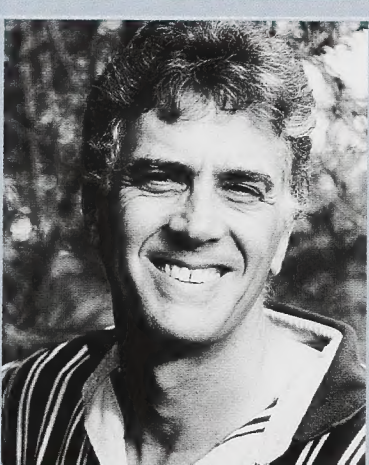
Bharati Mukherjee



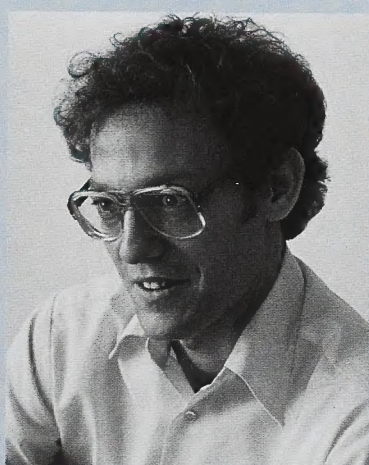
Howard Norman



Carl Phillips



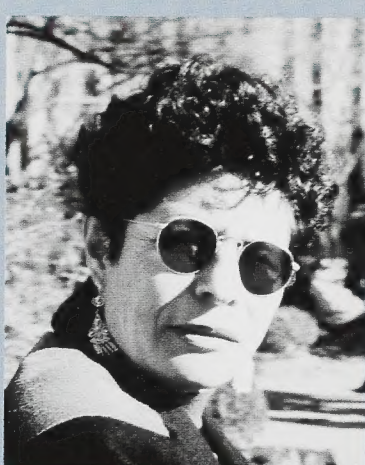
C.E. Poverman



Alan Shapiro



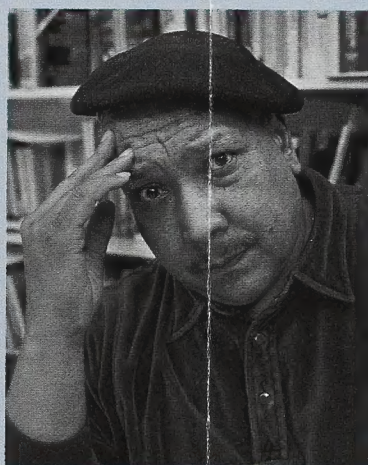
Jane Shore



Helena María Viramontes



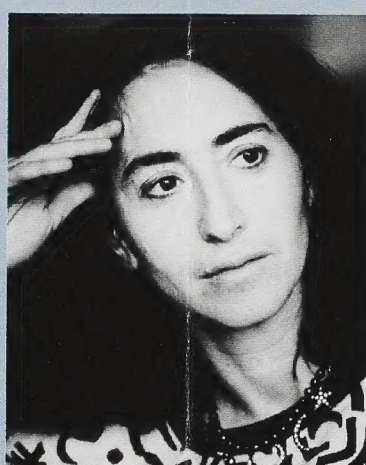
Ellen Bryant Voigt



Michael Harper
Special Guest



Shirley Hazzard
Special Guest



Francine Prose
Special Guest

Michael Collier,
Director

Devon Jersild,
Administrative Director

For more information contact:

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